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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/862,502	05/23/2001	Gerhard Dittrich		7223

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EXAMINER

SHERR, CRISTINA O

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3621

DATE MAILED: 12/09/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/862,502

Applicant(s)

DITTRICH, GERHARD

Examiner

Cristina O Sherr

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-7 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-7 in this application have been canceled by preliminary amendment.
Claims 8-25 have been examined.

Specification

2. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

4. Claims 8-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (a) as being anticipated by Carrier Corporation (EP 0 883 048 A1).
5. Regarding claim 8 –
Carrier Corp. discloses a method for providing measured values for end customers, comprising the steps of recording a measured value for a process variable using a sensor S1, S2, S3; counting the number of transmission operations; and calculating the costs for the end customer on the basis of the number of the transmission operations (pg 3 ln 40-54).
6. Regarding claim 9 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 8, wherein the data transmission between sensor S 1, S2, S3 and the process control system PLS takes place in line-conducted fashion, using, for example, a data bus system DBS pg 3 ln 55 – pg 4 ln 5).

7. Regarding claim 10 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 8, wherein the data transmission between sensors S1, S2, S3 and the process control system PLS takes place by radio (pg 4 ln 12-19).

8. Regarding claim 11 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 8, wherein the number A is stored in the sensor S1, S2, S3 (pg 4 ln 27-31).

9. Regarding claim 12 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 9, wherein the number A is stored in the sensor S1, S2, S3 (pg 4 ln 27-31).

10. Regarding claim 13 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 10, wherein the number A is stored in the sensor S 1, S2, S3 (pg 4 ln 27-31).

11. Regarding claim 14 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 8, wherein the number A is stored in the process control system PLS (pg 4 ln 22-26).

12. Regarding claim 15 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 9, wherein the number A is stored in the process control system PLS (pg 4 ln 22-26).

13. Regarding claim 16 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 8, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 10 ln 28-51).

14. Regarding claim 17 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 9, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S 1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 4 ln 42-50).

15. Regarding claim 18 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 10, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 4 ln 51-56).

16. Regarding claim 19 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 11, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over

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the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 4 ln 42-50).

17. Regarding claim 20 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 12, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 4 ln 42-50).

18. Regarding claim 21 –

Carrier discloses the method as described in claim 8, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 4 ln 42-50).

19. Regarding claim 22 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 9, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 4 ln 51-56).

20. Regarding claim 23 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 10, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 4 ln 51-56).

21. Regarding claim 24 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 11, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 4 ln 51-56).

22. Regarding claim 25 –

Carrier discloses the method as defined in claim 12, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted (pg 4 ln 51-56).

23. Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above the convenience of the applicant.

Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may be applied as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the

responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Conclusion

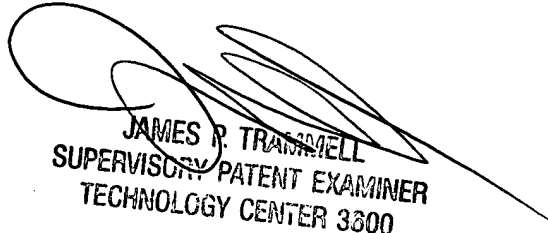
24. Prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

25. Tepcon Engineering (EP 0 808 206 B1) discloses a process and device for cost-oriented operation of a conditioning device, particularly a filter.

26. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cristina O Sherr whose telephone number is 703-305-0625. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30 to 5:00.

27. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 703-305-9768. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-305-7687.

28. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.


JAMES R. TRAMMELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3300
